

4/23/71

Dear Hal,

I was so glad to hear from you that I read your letter at the post office yesterday morning, delaying my start for Washington to do so. And its tone is comforting. You sound like yourself.

This has been a busted up morning, so I reply in haste, before stopping for lunch, so that afterward I can resume with what requires concentration (no slur intended). My typing may be worse than usual, for I have trifocals now, and for less than 24 hours. And I had written your address down incorrectly. I've corrected it.

Matter of fact, while I had suspected your girl-friend involvement was part of the reason for your silence, I had also suspected much more. And the general nature of our correspondence is such that I didn't want to write you where I knew there had to be an existing cover on the mail to that address.

Unsolicitedly, I offer the opinion that it is good you were not able to move to Europe. You are past the age where attachment to a rolling stone is requited love. Looking back on what now seems like so many years, on so many lives, I hope you can wait until the stone stops rolling. And until the glare make it possible for you to examine the whole thing in a more detached way. Because you are involved as you are this will never be easy. I think as time goes on you will be asking yourself questions you have not addressed. Thus I think time is important.

Jim, who has been so out of character, has puzzled me as he has disappointed. With the problems I have with my publishers, the failure of those I have always regarded as friends and still do weighs heavily and disappoints deeply. I'm glad to know about his producers, for a man messed up out last two by-phone shows by telling me other than Jim planned, so that my efforts to pace, plan and lay a foundation for what I expected to follow wound up being all of it. I wish Jim had spoken to me in advance, as all the others always have, so there'd have been no misunderstanding, for these shows must have been much less than he expected and certainly were considerably less than they could have been....I know Harv is news only, but there may be ways in which he could have helped, as we could have learned only by talking. But my affection for both is undiminished.

I'll be sending you a copy of FRAME-UP, possibly tonight. Your plans sound the usual good. I think Freeman may be more important on this than in the past, for black abdication is without end, to this moment. As you know, I've always had great respect for him and I did enjoy being interviewed by him, not always the case....I stopped to wrap a copy so I can't forget to mail it this evening when I pick Lil up. Temporarily she is working one day a week now that tax season is over.

At least for the moment, please hold off on the publishers in what you propose for Clobbersville. If we had to it would be a different thing. Their nonfeasances can be stupidity and/or incompetence, and both they are. Besides, if we come out fighting everybody, we lose credibility. No major, national talk show, all of which have aired the official fiction, will accept me and this side. I hope, especially if I can get a lawyer interested, in going to the FCC about this, but again, this is still premature.

Run out of time. Many thanks. But as of now, although it was understood that I'd be sent accross the country, there is no commitment and please, to begin with line up what I can do by phone and then give me an estimate of what can be done live, so I can lean on them again. It ought not then be SF alone, and as of now it would be. There is Chicago, LA and other places, and nothing has been done anywhere. Good luck & Thanks,